

Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey
Reconnaissance Survey Final Report
of
Gosper County, Nebraska
prepared for
Nebraska State Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office

by

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INTRODUCTION



Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey

The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NEHBS) is an ongoing project of the State Historic Preservation Office. Since its beginnings in 1974 with limited fieldwork by staff and student interns, NEHBS has expanded from a few thousand sites in urban and rural areas to over 42,000 recorded properties in three-fourths of the state. By 1992, the office plans to cover the entire state.

Through its documentation of the state's historic and architectural resources, NEHBS provides a basis for historic preservation in Nebraska. Survey data is used to list buildings in the National Register, which in turn may result in recognition and preservation. NEHBS data is also used to determine needs for further documentation and planning for the state's historic places.

Equally important, while contributing to the history of the entire state, the survey

also promotes local and regional awareness of significant buildings and sites. County officials, historical societies, planning organizations, and individuals are encouraged to use the information for community development, tourism, and historic preservation in their own communities. A brief description of Historic Preservation Office programs follows.

National Register

The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, which documents historic buildings and places throughout the state, also identifies those that may qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Established in 1966, the National Register is America's official inventory of sites, buildings, and districts, recognized for their importance to national, state, and local history. It is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. The National Register was developed to recognize historic places and those who contributed to our country's heritage. These properties--whether districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects--are architecturally or historically significant for their associations with important persons or events.

The National Register is designed to include properties of importance in every locality, not just great national landmarks. A general store, a community's park, a main street, or the remains of a prehistoric Indian village may be just as eligible for inclusion in the National Register as Independence Hall or Gettysburg Battlefield.

To qualify for listing, properties must be at least fifty (50) years old and have associations with one or more of the following: historic events, significant individuals, architecture, or future research potential.

Tax Incentive Program

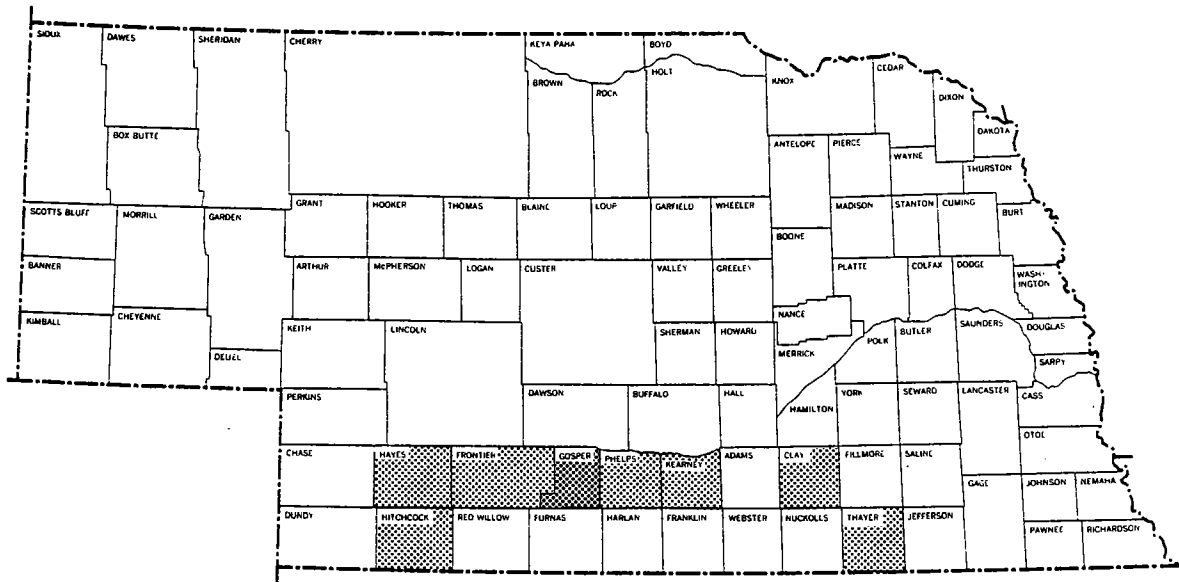
Inclusion in the National Register may enable income-producing properties to qualify for federal tax credits as certified rehabilitation projects. Designed to encourage the reuse and revitalization of historic buildings, neighborhoods, and "main street" districts, the tax incentives have been available since 1976. The program seeks to promote the reuse of historic buildings, including community redevelopment efforts and economic opportunities by retaining the distinctive qualities of buildings or districts.

Review and Compliance

The Historic Buildings Survey is an important source of information for the State Historic Preservation Office and government agencies when complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Commonly referred to as "review and compliance," Section 106 was established to ensure the documentation and protection of buildings and sites which may be affected by any federally funded or licensed project, such as highway construction. NEHBS survey data enables preservation staff and federal agencies to evaluate potentially affected properties and upon evaluation, to seek methods to mitigate the effect of these projects on important resources.

These and other programs are administered in Nebraska by the State Historic Preservation Office. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the office.

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Republican Valley and Central Plains Survey Area

The architectural research firm of Save America's Heritage was selected by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NESHPO) and engaged in a contractual agreement to conduct the Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey. The survey consisted of the completed preliminary fieldwork in eight southwest and south-central Nebraska counties: Hitchcock, Hayes, Frontier, Gosper, Phelps, Kearney, Clay, and Thayer. Initiated in September, 1990, the survey was completed in the summer of 1991. With the completion of the eight-county project, the Republican Valley and Central Plains were the fourth region of the state to be completed under the NESHPO's plan for preliminary statewide coverage by 1991-92.

The primary objective of the survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic material resources extant in the southwest and south-central Nebraska region. Another primary objective of the survey was the identification of a definitive group of historic properties judged eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of

Historic Places (NRHP). The Historic Buildings Survey of Gosper County has accomplished this goal by identifying a total of 13 historic properties considered eligible or potentially eligible for the NRHP. In addition to the completion of these primary goals, several of the survey's secondary goals were also satisfied. These include the identification of specific building types or construction methods which either related to or were unique to the historic built environment of Nebraska, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement and building technologies.

The following table outlines the numerical results of the Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey. The results included in parentheses indicate those properties previously surveyed by the NESHPO. The numbers are summarized according to the NEHBS number prefixes for rural and town locations.

Numerical Summary of Gosper County Reconnaissance Survey

GOSPER COUNTY	TOTAL PROPERTIES	CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS	CONTRIBUTING SITES	CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES	CONTRIBUTING OBJECTS
G000: Rural	32 (6)	131 (17)	0 (2)	29 (3)	5
G001: Elwood	21 (2)	33 (2)	0	0	0
G002: Smithfield	6	9	0	2	1
<hr/>					
TOTAL NUMBER SURVEYED IN FY 1990-1991:	59 (8)	173 (19)	0 (2)	31 (3)	6
TOTAL NEHBS TO DATE:	67	192	2	34	6

Approximated Area of Survey Coverage: 231.75 square miles (148,320 acres)
Numbers in parenthesis indicate previously surveyed properties

HISTORIC OVERVIEW OF GOSPER COUNTY

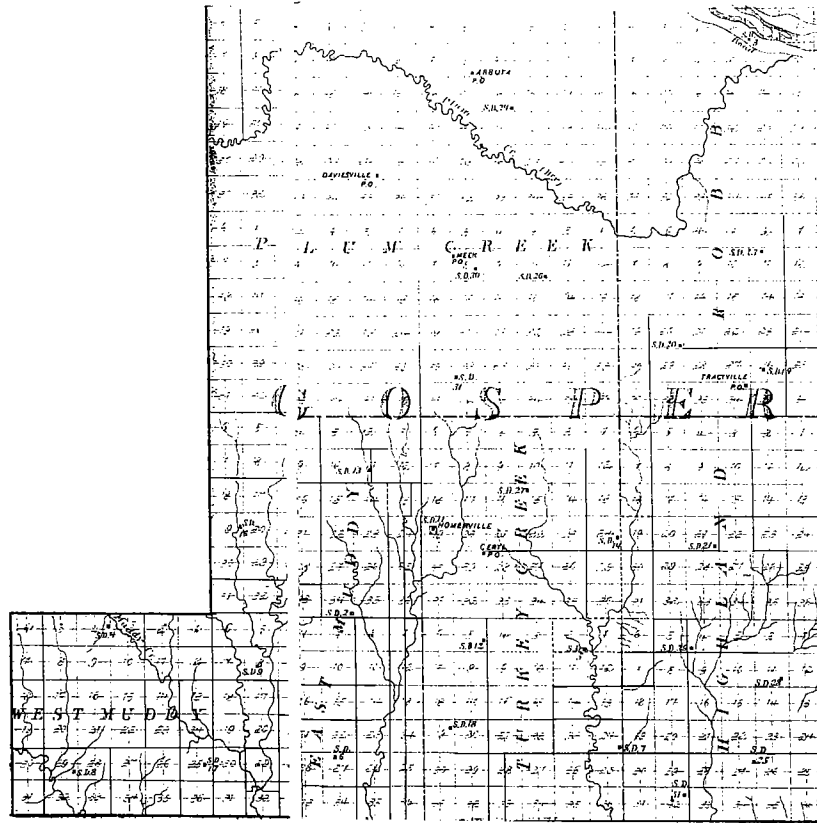


Fig. 1: Gosper County Atlas, circa 1910.

Physical Description

Gosper County is located in the south central portion of the state of Nebraska. Its shape is that of a rectangle approximately 18 miles wide (east-west) and 24 miles long (north-south), with a six mile square extension on the southwest corner. The total land area of Gosper County is 464 square miles. The overall appearance is one of rolling to somewhat hilly land, with elevations ranging from 2,250 to 2,750 feet.

Three types of topography can be found within the county borders: valley land, plains, and dissected plains. Valley land is flat land located primarily along Plum Creek in the northern part of the county, and along the Platte River into which Plum Creek flows. A

second small area of valley land can be found in the southwest along Muddy creek. This soil is rich, consisting of stream-deposited silt, clay, sand, and gravel. Plains are also flat lands, but they lie above the valley lands. The soil materials are overlain by rich, wind-deposited silt called loess. Plains land can be found in Gosper County along its eastern boundary south of Plum Creek. The remainder of the county consists of dissected plains. These are old plains that have been eroded by water and wind, often with steep slopes and sharp ridge crests. In Gosper County relief is less than in the hilly lands further west, resulting in a landscape that ranges from rolling to hilly.



Fig. 2: Dissected Plains topography.

The county's drainage system is composed of tributaries of the Republican and Platte Rivers. Muddy Creek and its tributaries drain the southwestern portion of the county, flowing from north to south and eventually emptying into the Republican River. Paralleling the Muddy are other tributaries of the Republican. The two largest, from west to east, are Elk Creek and Turkey Creek. Plum Creek crosses the northeast part of the county flowing

eastward to the Platte. The northern portion of the county shows evidence of its involvement with the Tri-County Project (irrigation and power) by a series of canals, dams, and lakes, the largest of which is Johnson Lake.

The climate in Gosper County, as in the entire state of Nebraska, is characterized by seasonal temperature extremes, conditions that range from subhumid to semiarid, and highly variable precipitation. The average January temperature for the south central portion of the state is 23.7 degree Fahrenheit, while the average July temperature is 77.5 degrees Fahrenheit. The average annual precipitation for the south central is 23.63 inches (Nebraska Statistical Handbook, 1986-1987). The least amount of precipitation ever recorded in this area was 10.96 inches, and the greatest was 40.73 inches (Nebraska Atlas).

Original Inhabitants

Until the mid nineteenth-century the eastern half of what is today the state of Nebraska was occupied by village dwellers, and the western half by nomadic groups of people. Many of the village dwellers participated in buffalo hunts that required extended periods of time away from their village location. The Pawnee, village dwellers who lived along the Loup Rivers, followed a path that crossed Frontier County leading from their homes to hunting grounds on the Republican River and its tributaries. The largest groups of nomadic people in the western third of the state were the Dakota, Cheyenne, and Arapaho. They relied heavily upon the bison for food and other necessities of life and practiced little agriculture, although they did gather fruits, berries, and roots. All of these tribes found bison to hunt in Frontier County, especially the Dakota. This sometimes resulted in conflicts between the Pawnee and Dakota. However, the Battle of Summit Springs in Colorado in 1863, in which the Indians were defeated by the U.S. Army, cleared much of the Republican River valley for settlement by whites. In addition, by 1880 the bison was

nearly wiped out by white hunters and the nomadic hunters of the plains were reduced to dependency on government supplies for their survival.

History and Settlement of Nebraska

From 1541 until the end of the eighteenth-century the primary white contact on the plains was with the Spanish, who were seeking a route to the Pacific and, secondarily, trade with the Indians. In 1804 Lewis and Clark explored the region for the United States with much the same goals. Later explorers also crossed the plains in search of other goals: Pike looking for the source of the Arkansas River in 1806, and Long looking for the headwaters of the Red River in 1820, for example. Some did, however, find interest in Nebraska itself. Fur traders, many of them French, sought out the resources of the region. Trading posts were established as places where trade goods could be exchanged for buffalo robes, beaver pelts and other furs. The posts, the first of which was built in 1812, were located along the Missouri River, and in the panhandle area. To provide protection for the trade, Fort Atkinson was built in 1821 on the Missouri River north of Council Bluffs.

In succeeding decades the Platte River became a primary transportation route across the continent. First, fur traders in canoes travelled up and down its waters as they extended their range further west. In the 1840's pioneers on foot and in wagons followed its banks into the Rocky Mountains headed for the rich soils of Oregon, religious freedom of Utah, and gold of California. Few stayed within Nebraska's borders, however, because the area was not officially open for settlement. That changed with the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, when Nebraska became a territory.

Settlement began in the eastern part of the state along the Missouri River. Towns were platted almost immediately and farmers took up land in the rural areas. Land was most often purchased from the government or obtained by military bounty land warrants.

In the 1860's, settlement spread out gradually from the banks of the Missouri, often following the streams and rivers of the state, with the greatest population being in the east and south. The passage of the Homestead Act in 1862, which allowed individuals to obtain 160 acres of land free of cost if certain conditions were met, encouraged settlement in the relatively new and sparsely populated state of Nebraska.

Communications were limited to the Pony Express, which operated in the southern part of the state from 1859 to 1861, when the transcontinental telegraph line was established. However, in 1863 Omaha was selected as the eastern terminus of the transcontinental railroad. Nebraska was granted statehood in 1867 and by the end of that year the state was spanned by rail.

At the beginning of the next decade people were moving into the northern portions of the state and following the rail lines into other areas. Much of the state's economy was based on agriculture and the early 1870's were prosperous. However, a series of bad years involving low rainfall and hordes of grasshoppers, added to the economic decline begun with the nation-wide Panic of 1873.

The year 1880 heralded a new decade--one that was to be the greatest settlement era for the great plains. Weather was almost perfect for crops, the railroads promised secure futures for many towns, and population boomed in both urban and rural areas. Cities began improving their environs and rural settlement spread throughout the state, including the previously unsettled portions in the west and central areas.

The year 1890 may have been a harbinger of things to come. The state averaged only 17 inches of rain for the year, with even lower amounts in 1893 and 1894. The drought was accompanied by general economic decline and a national panic in 1893. During this period thousands of people--both farm and city dwellers--left the state. By 1896 normal rainfall

returned and economic recovery began. Manufacturing was also encouraged by improved transportation that resulted in lower freight rates on fuel.

The first two decades of the twentieth-century were ones of prosperity. Favorable conditions for agriculture persisted and towns benefited from the farmers' economic good fortunes. This period was one of maturation for the plains towns. If a town's economic base had been unstable, and substantially weakened by the recession of the 1890's, it often faded from the landscape in the 1900's. If it survived in the 1890's, however, it began to mature in this era, often expanding, and adding city improvements. In fact, virtually all of the state's population increase in this era was recorded in the cities (Olson, 249). The Kincaid Act of 1904 attempted to increase population in the dry, western parts of the state by providing increased amounts of land (640 acres) available for homesteading. This proved to be too little for most areas and did not substantially increase the population of the dry regions.

World War I caused an increased demand for food production. Nebraska farmers, already experiencing higher prices than ever before, expanded both their acreage and production to accommodate the war effort. However, land priced began to rise after the war and bank lending increased. Mortgage debt skyrocketed and when war-time food prices were not maintained Nebraska agriculture went into a tailspin. Despite the overall prosperity of the 1920's for the nation, agricultural areas were depressed, and since Nebraska's economy was based almost wholly on agriculture the state suffered for two decades under a major economic depression. The drought conditions of the 1930's only added to the already depressed farm economy and in many cases was the final blow that forced people off the land, resulting in significant population declines in the state.

In the 1940's war once again resulted in unprecedented prosperity for Nebraska farmers and city dwellers as well. This war-generated prosperity continued well into the next

decade. Some decline was experienced in the 1960's, particularly by small towns that were by-passed by the new Interstate Highway System. Small towns also suffered in the sixties and seventies as railroads curtailed their services and some lines were completely abandoned. The farm crisis of the 1980's brought corporate farming into the forefront and resulted in a fight to save the family farm from both the corporations and the economy.

County History

In the process of settling the western part of the United States, many people crossed along the northeast corner of present day Gosper County. These people, crossing the plains in the 1840's and 1850's, were using a route that followed the south side of the Platte River, usually called the Oregon Trail. Later, the Pony Express used the same route.

The first permanent settlers in the county arrived around 1870, with the first homesteads filed in 1872. At that time the county was surrounded by four other counties that had been defined, officially organized, and recognized by the state of Nebraska. Gosper County lay in the middle, but had never been organized, and was defined only by the presence of the other four counties. In 1873, settlers petitioned the governor for organization, and a proclamation was issued declaring the area to be Gosper County, but the Legislature never legally acknowledged the county. Nevertheless, Daviesville, located along Muddy Creek and possessing the only post office in the county, was chosen the county seat in 1874.

People worked under this quasi-legal arrangement for eight years, until, in 1881, the Legislature finally recognized Gosper County. In 1882, Homerville, located in the center of the county, won an election for county seat. The following year a courthouse was built in the town, using material hauled from Arapahoe (located to the south in Furnas county and on the Republican River) and plans were made to hold a county fair. Shortly after, the

Burlington and Missouri River Railroad planned a branch line (the High Line) from Holdrege, Nebraska, to Sterling, Colorado, that would pass through the northern half of the county. The Lincoln Land Company surveyed and platted townsites along the way. In 1885 both Smithfield and Elwood were laid out as railroad towns, by-passing Homerville. In 1888 another election resulted in the moving of the county seat from Homerville to Elwood. The following year the courthouse was moved to its new location.

In addition to the drought and economic recession of the 1890's, Gosper County also suffered the loss of its courthouse in 1895, when it was destroyed by fire. Despite the economic conditions, a new building was constructed the following year.

During the nineteenth-century postal service involved mail delivery to rural post offices, to which patrons would go to pick up their mail. In 1902 rural mail service was begun in Gosper County, operating out of Arapahoe.

Many of the farmers in the Republican Valley changed their primary crop from corn to wheat during the first two decades of the twentieth-century. As a result, the drop in wheat prices after World War I dramatically affected the people of this area. Population declined and at least three of the small towns in Gosper County that had survived the devastating decade of the 1890's, finally succumbed during the supposedly successful and "roaring" 1920's.

The Public Works Administration played a prominent role in Gosper county during the 1930's. In 1935 it approved the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (Tri-County Project), and work was begun in the county in 1938, building dams and canals to supply power and water for agriculture. The largest project in the county was Johnson Lake on the northern border. In 1939 a Public Works Administration grant also provided money for the construction of a new courthouse.

Transportation was an important issue in the early 1950's in Gosper County. In 1950

the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad decided to stop "train service" (presumably passenger service) on the High Line. This route continued in operation, in the 1980's as the Burlington Northern.

County Towns

The first activity at the site of Elwood was in 1884 when a post office named Mick was established there. In 1885 the Lincoln Land Company platted the town of Elwood, in the north central part of Gosper county, as a future stop on the burlington and Missouri River Railroad. Later in the year the tracks reached the town and for a year it served as a terminal. A roundhouse was built west of the town, and three lumberyards sprand up to accommodate the flurry of building. Some businesses, such as the hotel, even relocted to Elwood from Homerville, the county seat that was bypassed by the railroad. In 1888, an election was held and Elwood won the county seat.



Fig. 3: Gosper County Courthouse, Elwood, (GO01-001).

Many of the buildings remaining in Homerville, including the frame courthouse building, were transported to Elwood. In 1895 the building burned, but was replaced the next year. In the twentieth-century Elwood added community improvements, such as a water system to replace the public well in 1907, electric lights in 1911, and a new courthouse in 1939. The town's status as county seat bolstered its growth, and population steadily increased, from 473 in 1920 to 581 in 1960, and peaking at 716 in 1980.

Smithfield, located seven miles southeast of Elwood, was also platted by the Lincoln Land Company in 1885 for the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad. Although the town sported the usual array of businesses (general store, hotel, livery, elevator) in the 1890's, and adopted the technology of the twentieth-century (telephones, electricity), the largest population recorded was 229 in 1920. By 1980 the total stood at 68, quite likely a reflection of the town's proximity to the county seat.

Towns No Longer in Existence: with approximate dates and locations.

Arbuta (north Central); 1883-1893

Ceryl (central); 1880-1920's

Daviesville (southwest); 1874-1920's, first county seat

Gosper (west central); 1880-1920's

Homerville (central); circa 1883-1889, county seat from 1882 to 1888; moved to Elwood

Traceyville (east central); 1880-1886

Rural Communities

While the word "community" often evokes images only of towns and cities, rural areas can also be considered communities. Regions develop in rural areas with their own

particular characteristics and often with an isolated church, store, or meeting hall as a focal point. The following rural communities have existed over the years in Gosper County.

Valley Union was located in the Platte River Valley along the northeastern edge of the county. Settled in the 1880's by a group of Mennonites from Illinois, the Community focussed on the church, which held church and Sunday school services through 1915, and starting again in 1920 through the early 1930's.

The Blackwood neighborhood originally centered on School District 37, formed in 1885. Initially, a dugout was used for both church and school functions. Later the dugout was replaced by a multi-purpose soddie, and in 1894 by a wooden structure. Church services for a variety of denominations were held in the school until the 1940's and Bible School continued through the 1950's. The district was in the vicinity of Homerville, probably to the northwest.

In 1875 a family of Quakers settled in Elwood precinct, east of the present day town of Elwood. Other families followed and the community became known as Quakerville. In 1883 a school was built, and a few years later, a church. The church was destroyed by fire in 1912. The congregation continued services, holding them in the school until 1920 when it disbanded.

In the northeast corner of Gosper County, several families of Mennonites established a colony in 1879-1880. The colony was in existence until the early part of the twentieth-century.

Population Characteristics

The decennial federal censuses of the population of the United States show Gosper County to be a relatively typical plains county whose economy is based primarily on agriculture (see table p. 17). The population grew very rapidly in the agriculturally

favorable 1880's. The county was fortunate enough not to experience significant emigration in the dry 1890's, although growth was small, as would be expected. The decennial year with the largest population was 1900, with declines occurring every subsequent decennial year. While this is somewhat unusual, the declines were small during the prosperous years in the first three decades of the twentieth-century and larger in the decade of the Great Depression. The population numbers have been slowly decreasing ever since, although a slight resurgence was evidenced between 1980 and 1984.

The 1890 federal census indicated that the largest number of foreign-born persons in Gosper county were German, accounting for six percent of the total population. Other groups, such as Scandinavians and Canadians, were present in much smaller numbers. The percentage of Germans in the county rose to eight percent in 1900 then slowly declined through the early decades of the twentieth-century. Recent censuses indicate much smaller numbers of people who claim to be of German stock, but due to declines in the county's population, they represent nine percent of the total population.

Gosper County Population

1875	261	1940	3,687
1880	1,673	1950	2,734
1890	4,816	1960	2,489
1900	5,301	1970	2,187
1910	4,933	1980	2,140
1920	4,669	1984	2,161
1930	4,287		

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Introduction

The primary objective of the Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey was to provide a preliminary characterization of the historic resources extant within the county. In addition to this, several other objectives were identified in the Research Design which utilize the data collected by the survey and validate the need for its performance. First among these additional objectives was the contribution of information to the contextual setting of Nebraska's historic architecture. The performance of the Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey has generated information which contributes to a statewide knowledge and builds a background with which future survey information can be evaluated.

Secondly, it was the objective of the Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey to identify those properties within the county which are eligible or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Additional objectives of the survey included: the identification of specific properties or geographic areas which, in the event of an intensive survey, would contribute useful information to the context of Nebraska's historic architecture; the identification of specific property types; the identification of construction methods which may relate to or are unique to those existing in the NEHBS database, and the expansion of knowledge regarding ethnic settlement, building technologies and architectural image.

In addition to these conceptual objectives, the Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey was intended to fulfill several numerical objectives as stated in the Research Design.

These quantitative objectives consisted of:

- A. The recording of an estimated 175 properties in Gosper County at the completion of the survey.
- B. The coverage of approximately 176,000 acres (275 square miles) in Gosper County.

In addition, each street of the two extant Gosper County communities would be surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods.

- C. Identification of at least 20 properties worthy of nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
- D. Identification of at least one possible Historic District or Multiple Property nominations eligible for National Register listing.
- E. Evaluating by the following hierarchy those properties which are eligible (E) or potentially eligible (P) for listing in the National Register, and those properties which contribute (C) to the database of extant material resources in the county.

A post-survey evaluation of these goals reveals that the Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey was generally successful in satisfying its preliminary objectives. The satisfaction of these goals can be expressed in two quantifiable terms: numerical and geographic. Each street of both Gosper County communities and nearly every rural road was surveyed using reconnaissance survey methods.

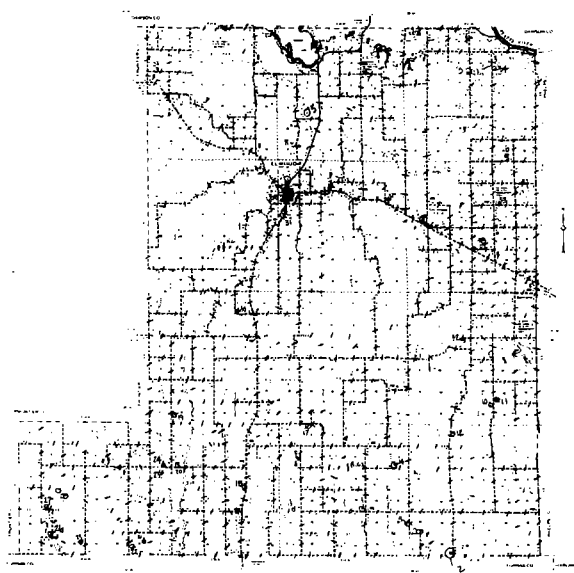


Fig. 4: Gosper County rural survey map.

While the overall totals were considerably lower than anticipated, the numbers produced by the survey still indicate the comprehensive nature of the project. A total of 210 contributing buildings, structures, objects and sites were documented on 59 individual properties. The survey canvassed approximately 148,320 acres (231.75 square miles) and identified two properties eligible and eleven potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Gosper County has produced a diverse collection of historic material resources. This diversity of these resources is expressed in the broad range of Historic Contexts and Associated Property Types represented in the database of the surveyed properties. The list of Historic Contexts recorded by the reconnaissance level survey includes the following themes as defined by the NESHPO (Historic Contexts in Nebraska--Topical Listing, 1989). Completed Historic Context Reports residing in the NESHPO Cultural Resource Plan are indicated in bold type face.

Historic Context	# of Properties
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02.00.	Religion: Religious/Ceremonial	3
04.03.	Government: County	1
06.01.01.	Education: Rural Education	3
08.05.	Central Plains Cash Grain and Livestock Production	4
08.06.	Republican Valley Gen. Farming, Cash Grain and Livestock	29
12.02.06.	Commerce: Retail Commerce In the Republican Valley Region	3
13.04.01.	Transportation: Rail, Union Pacific	1
15.04.	Services: Professional	1
15.05.03.	Services: The Age of Main Street Banking, (1889-1920)	2
16.05.	Settlement: Dwelling in Dispersed and Clustered Settlement	20

Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

A Topical Discussion and Preliminary Inventory of Gosper County Historic Properties

The following discussion consists of a topical summary and Preliminary Inventory of the historic properties documented during the Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey. This discussion is arranged according to the Topical Listing of Historic Contexts developed by the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NESHPO, 1989). It includes summaries only of those historic contexts associated with properties judged eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Included at the end of each context summary is a photographic inventory of properties which appear eligible or potentially eligible for National Register listing. Properties judged eligible generally precede those considered potentially eligible. Properties labeled "potentially eligible" are included in the inventory for purposes of defining those buildings that may lack the significance or integrity for NRHP listing but which help define the character of the historic built environment of Gosper County.

Historic Context: Religion

The contextual topic of Religion encompasses any cultural manifestation relative to the faithful devotion of an acknowledged deity. This includes any social entity relating to sacred organizations and rituals or considered a sacred place. In terms of historic buildings and structures, this includes churches, parsonage-rectories, cemeteries, fellowship halls, and schools.

The Historic Buildings Survey of Gosper County did not find any properties associated with the context of Religion which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. However, three (3) properties in Gosper County relating to the context of Religion were previously recorded by the NESHPO. Identified in 1982 by NSHS staff, the Highland Union

Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

Church and Cemetery was included in the Republican Valley and Central Plains survey as eligible for National Register listing. Located in rural southeast Gosper, this property contains a frame hall-type church building (1908) and cemetery (1880). In addition, the Wilmina Robb Memorial Chapel and the Robb Cemetery (GO00-003, GO00-004) were surveyed in 1987 by NESHPO staff and have been judged potentially eligible for listing. Designed by Omaha architect George Prinz, the domed chapel seated 74 people in an open interior plan and was used primarily for worship and funeral services. Construction of the building started in 1916 and was completed in 1918. After a period of neglect and abuse, the Robb Cemetery Association bricked in the large arched door and window openings. Immediately adjacent the memorial building to the east is the Robb Cemetery. Burials began as early as 1882 and the site has been administered by various organizations including the Pleasant Hill Cemetery Association (1903) and the Robb Cemetery Association (1921). The following table outlines the three Religion properties in Gosper County.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING				PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG.	SITE	STRU.	OBJ.		
GO00-002	1880, 1908	HIGHLAND UNION CHURCH & CEM.	02.00	3	1	2	0	02.1.4:1, 02.3.	E
GO00-003	1916-1918	WILMINA ROBB MEMORIAL	02.00	1	0	0	0	02.3	P
GO00-004	1882	ROBB CEMETERY	02.00	0	1	0	0	02.3.1	P

While a larger number of religious properties exist within Gosper County, only the three properties listed above met the criteria necessary for reconnaissance level survey (see NESHPO Files: Research Design). Photographic illustration of these properties appears on the following page.

Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GO00-002 Rural
DATE: 1880, 1908
RESOURCE NAME: Highland Union Church & Cemetery
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.00)
PROPERTY TYPE: Hall Type Church (02.1.4:1)
 Cemetery (02.3.1)

DOE: Eligible

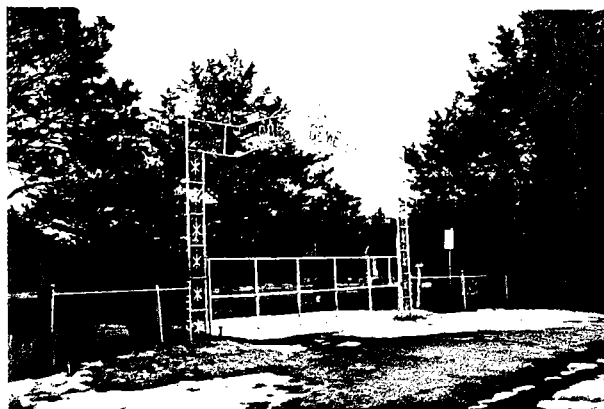
Previously surveyed by the NESHPO, this well-preserved frame church and cemetery are important for association with religious practices during the period of Development and Growth (1890-1920) in southeast Gosper County.



NEHBS NUMBER: GO00-003 Rural
DATE: 1916-1918
RESOURCE NAME: Wilmina Robb Memorial
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.00)
PROPERTY TYPE: Chapel (02.1.6)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Originally built as a worship and funeral chapel in memory of Wilmina Robb (1896-1911). Designed by Omaha architect G.B. Prinz, this small brick building remains a valuable resource in the history of Gosper County despite its altered condition.



NEHBS NUMBER: GO00-004 Rural
DATE: 1882
RESOURCE NAME: Robb Cemetery
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Religion (02.00)
PROPERTY TYPE: Cemetery (02.3.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Small hilltop cemetery founded in 1882 by local homesteaders William Robb and Edmond Wallace. This site is located adjacent to the Robb Memorial chapel and is significant as a religious property linked to the period of Settlement and Expansion in Gosper County (1867-1890).



Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

Historic Context: Government

The contextual topic of Government encompasses the art or science of established government as well as competition between interest groups for leadership of local, state, or national government. Associated historic buildings include post offices, courthouses, community halls, and fire stations.

Typically, the recording of buildings fitting this context has been somewhat low due presumably to the fact that it only takes one or two of these buildings to satisfy the governing needs of small communities. The Gosper County Historic Buildings Survey did not identify any buildings with association to the Government context which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. However, one property (Gosper County Courthouse: GO01-001) was recently listed on the National Register as part of a multiple property nomination of county courthouses in Nebraska.

NEHBS NUMBER: GO01-001 Elwood
DATE: 1939
RESOURCE NAME: Gosper County Courthouse
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Government (04.03)
PROPERTY TYPE: Courthouse (04.1.7)
DOE: National Register, 1990
One of many courthouse buildings recently listed in the National Register under the Multiple Property Nomination of Nebraska Courthouses. Important in the historic development of Gosper County Government.

**Historic Context: Agriculture**

The historic contexts relating to the theme of agriculture will obviously be of great variety and importance to Nebraska. As a predominantly agrarian-based society, the economic

Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

well-being of the state is, in part, dependent upon the production of crops and livestock. Like other Nebraska counties, the settlement of Gosper County was correspondent to the agricultural success of early permanent settlers. Consequently, documentation of historic agricultural properties in Gosper County was an important task. A total of thirty-one (31) individual properties associated with the agriculture context were documented by the 1990-91 Historic Buildings Survey of Gosper County. These thirty-one properties accounted for 164 contributing buildings, structures and objects. In addition, two rural properties with association to the agriculture context were previously surveyed by the NESHPO (GO00-005 and GO00-006) adding an additional thirteen (13) contributing buildings, structures, and objects. Of the thirty-three total agriculture related properties in the Gosper County agriculture database, one (1) has been considered eligible and four (4) potentially eligible for National Register listing. These judgements are based on reconnaissance survey observations and must be confirmed by the NESHPO staff pending further research.

The farmsteads documented by the survey are collectively viewed as important material resources for the state of Nebraska. They portray the raw materials of a people and an industry responsible for the settlement of a vast portion of our state. The continued existence of some of the farmsteads documented in Gosper County is, however, doubtful. In fact, over one-third (42.4%) of the thirty-three agriculture properties in the database consist of abandoned farms or farm houses. In addition, a significant number of farmsteads which appear on historic county atlases are no longer extant--due primarily to the expansion of crop land and the introduction of center-pivot irrigation. The impact of center-pivot irrigation has been particularly devastating and has resulted in the relocation or razing of a large number of farmsteads.

Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

The majority of the farms documented range in their era of construction from approximately 1890 to 1930. They contain the basic buildings necessary for crop and animal production such as livestock barns, loafing sheds, granaries, cribs, implement sheds, cellars, and hay barns.

Particular emphasis was placed on the observance of farm properties relating to Central Plains Cash Grain and Livestock Production (H.C.: 08.05), and Republican Valley General Farming, Cash Grain and Livestock Production (H.C.: 08.06). These two farming types were identified by the NESHPO as the predominant types of agriculture practised in Gosper County (see Historic Contexts in Nebraska--Topical Listing, 1989).

NEHBS NUMBER: GO00-021 Rural

DATE: C.1910

COMMON NAME: Abandoned Farm

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.06)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Abandoned early twentieth-century farm with vernacular frame house and five contributing outbuildings. Despite visibility problems, this farm was included in the Inventory for possible association with ethnic cultures and Republican Valley General Farming, Cash Grain and Livestock Production.



NEHBS NUMBER: GO00-026 Rural

DATE: C.1910

COMMON NAME: Abandoned Farm

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.06)

PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

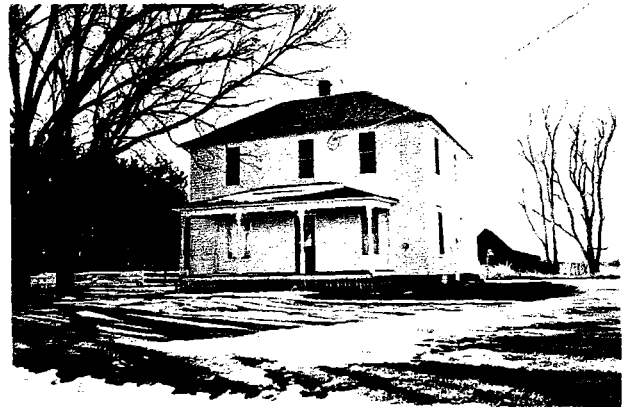
Despite abandonment, this property reflects the scale and character of farm buildings constructed during the 1890-1920 Development and Growth period in Republican Valley farming. Further significance possible for association with ethnic settlement in Gosper County.



Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

NEHBS NUMBER: GO00-038 Rural
DATE: C.1910
COMMON NAME: Farm
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Despite compromises in historic integrity, the seven contributing buildings of this farm reflect practices common during the 1900-1919 Beginnings of Scientific Development and Economic Prosperity period defined in the Republican Valley Agriculture Historic Context.

NEHBS NUMBER: GO01-023 Elwood
DATE: C.1910
COMMON NAME: Farm
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Agriculture (08.06)
PROPERTY TYPE: Farm (08.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 Primarily important for the large frame house associated with the period of Scientific Development and Economic Prosperity (1900-1919) in Republican Valley General Farming, Cash Grain and Livestock Production.



Historic Context: Services

The historic context of Services refers to the community support services provided or controlled by government and commonly viewed as necessities. This includes public services such as the supply of gas, electricity, and water; the disposal of waste; and the protective services of fire fighting and disaster relief. Private professional services are also considered under this context and include architecture, banking, medical and insurance industries.

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The survey of Gosper County found three (3) properties relating to the context of Services which met the criteria for reconnaissance level survey. Among the three properties, one (1) has been judged potentially eligible for National Register listing: Home Bank (GO01-012). Home Bank consists of a two-story brick building with corner entry and possible mixed-use space on the second floor. The three properties recorded represent two primary sub-contexts within the Services topic: Professional Services (H.C.: 15.04), and The Age of Main Street Banking: The Dual System in Nebraska (1890-1920), (H.C.: 15.05.03.). Pertinent information regarding the surveyed properties is outlined in the following table.

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING				PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG.	SITE	STRU.	OBJ.		
GO01-013	C1900	PROFESSIONAL BUILDING	15.04	1	0	0	0	15.3	C
GO01-012	C1912	HOME BANK	15.05.03	1	0	0	0	15.1.1	P
GO02-003	C1910	FARMERS STATE BANK	15.05.03	1	0	0	0	15.1.1	C

NEHBS NUMBER: GO01-012 Elwood

DATE: C.1912

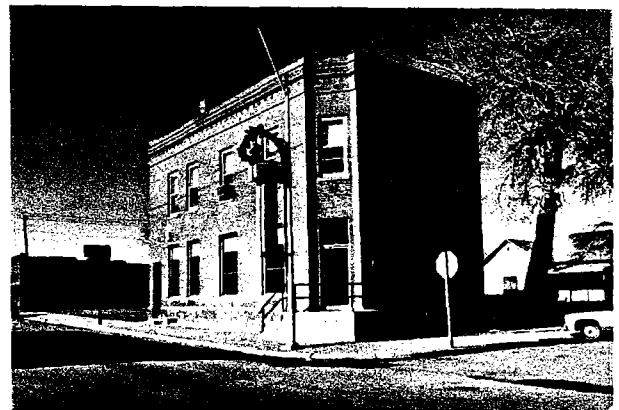
RESOURCE NAME: Home Bank

HISTORIC CONTEXT: Service (15.05.03)

PROPERTY TYPE: Bank (15.1.1)

DOE: Potentially Eligible

Two-story brick bank potentially eligible to the National Register based on its role in the establishment of financial services during early twentieth-century settlement in Elwood.



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Historic Context: Settlement

Settlement is the broad contextual title encompassing the division, acquisition, occupation, and ownership of land. This context contains settlement patterns generated through political, religious or commercial activities to facilitate the establishment of cultural systems. Specific considerations include acquisition methods and use patterns of land as well as the spatial delineation and organization of land including hamlets, villages, towns, cities and the furthest delineation--the individual dwelling.

This contextual topic contained the second greatest number of documented historic properties within Gosper County following the context of Agriculture. Of the sixty-seven properties documented in Gosper County, twenty (20) or 29.6% fall within the context of Settlement (including one previously surveyed). The majority of these properties were recognized simply as contributors to the historic built environment of Gosper County. However, four (4) properties were judged potentially eligible for National Register listing.

The retention of historic integrity that these twenty properties displayed was quite varied. In some instances, the integrity had been severely compromised through later additions or alterations, while in other cases buildings were recorded which were extremely similar to their original condition.

The individual house-whether in an urban or a rural setting-is the most common feature of the built environment; it fulfills the basic human need for shelter. Houses represent the largest proportion of all buildings documented during reconnaissance level surveys. The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NEHBS) for Gosper County was no exception: fifty (50) houses were documented, or 26% of the county's contributing buildings. Although houses are such a common part of our surroundings, describing them can be complex; variations

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result from style, age, building material, and even the ethnic heritage of owners or builders.

Architectural histories and guide books often provide descriptions of houses during various periods of popularity in terms of style such as Italianate, Queen Anne, or Romanesque. Good examples of these houses are usually referred to as "high style". Houses that cannot be identified as a particular style and that are built from local materials such as log, stone, and sod are generally referred to as "folk" houses. Usually dating from the settlement era of a particular locality, folk houses were often built by immigrants who patterned them after buildings in their homeland. Age, distinctive building material, or unusual form makes these houses easy to identify during building surveys. Further research and comparison however, is necessary to determine how they might reflect "old world" buildings adapted to the Nebraska landscape.

During county-wide historic buildings surveys it becomes apparent that most houses are not associated with a specific architectural style, and that in many places, few survive from the settlement period. The goal of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, however, is to document all types of houses--from large Queen Annes with corner towers and elaborate porches, to small two room, frame houses with simple porches.



Republican Valley and Central Plains Historic Buildings Survey

The remaining houses that are not high style or folk, are generally referred to as "vernacular" or common. All houses, whether they are high style, folk, or vernacular, can be studied for their form, floor plans, and distribution. In the case of folk and vernacular, documenting the form becomes especially important since there may not be other ways to describe these houses. Information about the basic form and features such as roof shape, and number of stories can reveal patterns or house types within a region, the work of a local builder or an ethnic group.

To document all houses, the Nebraska Historic Preservation Office uses a system derived in part from several vernacular house studies that was further developed for use during historic buildings surveys. Under this method, house types are categorized as "supratypes" to eliminate subjective descriptions based on "style." Instead, descriptions are based on the external mass of the house. The components of this method are defined as the following: Supratypes are categorizations based on the external massing of house, similar to that first developed by Kniffen (1936) under the ruberick of "type." The term "supratype" is used to distinguish it from other methods of type analysis which are based on external form and internal space, such as that developed by Glassie (1975).

Supratypes are defined by combinations of five massing elements derived from the core structure of the house--the predominant mass which cannot be further subdivided--exclusive of wings and porches. The five mass elements are shape, relative size, height, roof type, and orientation on the site (D. Murphy, 1989).

While this method has proved successful in surveys of Nebraska counties with large numbers of houses, the analysis of supratype descriptions in Gosper County was less significant due to the lack of a sufficient number of records (50) for analysis.

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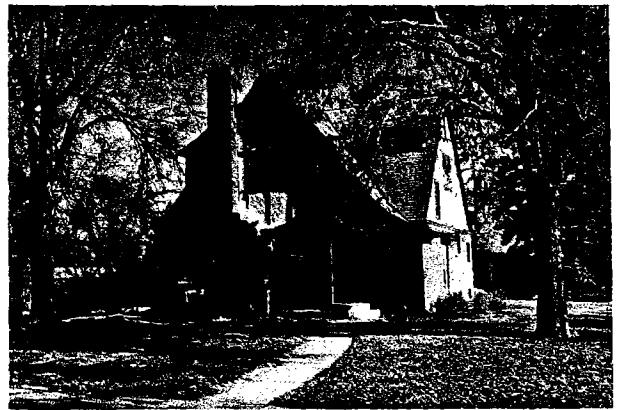
Consequently, a discussion regarding the predominant house types in Gosper County was omitted from the analysis of settlement related properties.

Settlement Preliminary Inventory

NEHBS NUMBER: GO01-007 Elwood
DATE: C.1917
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 One and one-half story frame house significant as a well-preserved vernacular house built during the period of Development and Growth (1890-1920) in Gosper County. Contributes to the historic character of Elwood.



NEHBS NUMBER: GO01-010 Elwood
DATE: C.1928
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Eligible
 Significant as an excellent single family dwelling executed in the Tudor Revival Style (P.T.: 03.1:5.2). Important to the study of stylistic trends in the history of Gosper County domestic architecture.



NEHBS NUMBER: GO01-017 Elwood
DATE: C.1927
COMMON NAME: House
HISTORIC CONTEXT: Settlement (16.05)
PROPERTY TYPE: Single Family Dwelling (16.5.1)
DOE: Potentially Eligible
 One-story brick house significant as an example of the bungalow style popularized during the Spurious Economic Growth period of the 1920's. Portrays the evolution of single family dwellings types in early twentieth-century Nebraska.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

By nature, reconnaissance level surveys often generate more questions than answers. These surveys provide an excellent preview of extant historic resources in Nebraska, but should be viewed only as the beginning of more extensive research efforts. The purpose of the recommendations for future work is to guide these efforts towards the buildings of potential historic significance within Gosper County.

Throughout the duration of the Gosper County survey, random observations were recorded regarding historic context themes which appeared potentially significant based on their extant material resources. The general impressions recorded by the survey team were then combined with a post-survey analysis of all documented properties to determine recommendations for future work. These recommendations include National Register nominations of the properties presented in the Preliminary Inventory (see p. 22-33), suggestions for further Historic Context development, research questions, and potential Multiple Property projects.

Potential Historic Context Reports

Republican Valley General Farming, Cash Grain and Livestock Production (H.C.: 08.06.) was identified by the NESHPO as one of two predominant types of agriculture practised in Gosper County. This context report was developed in 1990 by the NESHPO and served as a vital reference in determining the qualification of properties for reconnaissance level recordation. However, due to a lack of survey data, the current form of the report does not include discussion regarding property types. Now that the survey is complete and the Agriculture database contains approximately 164 contributing resources, it is our recommendation that a discussion of Republican Valley General Farming, Cash Grain and Livestock Production property types be integrated into the existing report.

The second type of farming evident in Gosper County is Central Plains Cash Grain and Livestock Production (H.C.: 08.05.). This method is confined to a small portion of east-central Gosper County and is implemented to a greater degree in counties to the east (Phelps, Kearney, Adams, Clay, Hamilton, Fillmore, York, Polk, Butler, and Seward). The Historic Context Report for this farming region was prepared in September, 1990 and proved useful for the survey of rural properties in east-central Gosper County. However, due to a lack of survey data, a discussion of Central Plains agriculture property types was not prepared. While the survey of Gosper County will not add large volumes of data regarding Central Plains agriculture property types, the completion of surveys in the spring of 1991 (Phelps, Kearney, Clay, Thayer) should provide an adequate database for the development of a property type discussion.

The development of historic context reports relative to ethnic groups in Gosper County is also worthy of recommendation. The most numerically significant foreign-born immigrant groups to settle in Gosper County were German-Americans (H.C.: 18.05.01.) , Northern Europeans (H.C.: 18.04.) and Canadian-Americans (H.C.: 18.01.05.).

In addition, two Settlement related contexts appear significant with regard to the surveyed properties in Gosper County: Dwelling in Dispersed and Clustered Settlement (H.C.: 16.05.), and Land Ownership: The Homestead Act, 1862 (H.C.: 16.01.). Properties of historic significance with respect to these topics are found in the Agriculture Inventory (p. 25-28) and the Settlement Inventory (p. 30-33).

Conclusion



It is our belief that people, and the places they live, are the raw materials of history. The built environment, and its development through time, are proper subjects for research for it is through the study of the past that we gain a fuller comprehension of the present. The need for preserving historic properties was expressed on a national level in 1966 by Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine as he addressed the eighty-ninth Congress on the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act.

"In less than 200 years, America has grown from a sparsely populated agricultural community of States to the most urbanized and technologically advanced Nation in the world. During these 20 decades and before, American genius has created marvels of mortar and stone... In the next four decades alone, our expanding population and urbanization will require more construction than we have witnessed during our first 20 decades. This means that much of what we have created to date is threatened by the thrust of bulldozers or the corrosion of neglect. In many instances, efforts to preserve sites of architectural and historic value will be too late. America must move promptly and vigorously to protect the important legacies which remain. This we can achieve without blunting our progress. And this achievement will enrich our progress. With sensitive planning, the past and the future can live as neighbors and contribute jointly to the quality of our civilization."

In the year 1991, America has passed the halfway point in the forty-year period of expansion delineated in this speech. Have we achieved the balance of preserving our past

while progressing toward the future? In some cases we have, but in many others we have not. This does not say that all older buildings are worthy of preservation. In some cases, the neglect or destruction of non-contributing buildings has no adverse affect on the historic character of the built environment. However, the heightening of public awareness and the education of our elected public officials to the concept of historic preservation is a topic not open to subjectivity. It is imperative that documentation and review of threatened historic buildings be conducted and appropriate decisions made regarding the cultural value of historic properties. It was toward this goal that the historic built environment of the Republican Valley and Central Plains region was preliminarily recorded. It is our hope that the historic properties within this region will be enjoyed by many future generations of Nebraska citizens.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: Gosper County Town and Rural Inventory of all Surveyed Properties

G000: GOSPER COUNTY RURAL INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RRESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING				PROPERTY TYPE	DOE
				BLDG.	SITE	STRU.	OBJ.		
G000-001	C1910	FORMER DARR U.P. DEPOT	13.04.01	1	0	0	0	13.5.2	C
G000-002	1880, 1908	HIGHLAND UNION CHURCH&CEMETERY	02.00	3	1	2	0	02.1.4:1, 02.3.1	E
G000-003	1916-1918	WILMINA ROBB MEMORIAL	02.00	1	0	0	0	02.3	P
G000-004	1882	ROBB CEMETERY	02.00	0	1	0	0	02.3.1	P
G000-005	1892,1910	PAUL O. TILSON FARM	08.06, 18.04.04	7	0	1	0	08.1, 11.4.3:1	E
G000-006	C1910	FARM (R&C)	08.05	5	0	0	0	08.1	C
G000-007	C1910	FARM	08.06	8	0	2	0	08.1	C
G000-008	C1910	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	7	0	0	0	08.1	C
G000-009	C1910	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	8	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-010	C1910	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	6	0	3	1	08.1	C
G000-011	C1927	BARN	08.06	1	0	1	0	08.1.02	C
G000-012	C1905	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	3	0	2	1	08.1	C
G000-013	C1910	ABANDONED SCHOOL	06.01.01	1	0	0	0	06.3.1:1	C
G000-014	C1900	ABANDONED SCHOOL	06.01.01	3	0	0	0	06.3.1:1	C
G000-015	C1900	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	2	0	0	0	08.1	C
G000-016	C1915	FARM	08.06	5	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-017	C1910	FARM	08.06	7	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-018	C1912	FARMHOUSE	08.06	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
G000-019	C1905	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	4	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-020	C1910	ABANDONED SCHOOL	06.01.01	2	0	0	0	06.3.1:1	C
G000-021	C1910	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	6	0	1	0	08.1	P
G000-022	C1910	FARM	08.06	4	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-023	C1895	ABANDONED FARMHOUSE	08.06	1	0	1	0	16.5.1	C
G000-024	C1910	FARM	08.06	7	0	2	0	08.1	C
G000-025	C1910	ABANDONED FARMHOUSE	08.06	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
G000-026	C1910	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	5	0	2	0	08.1	P
G000-027	C1910	FARM	08.06	5	0	0	0	08.1	C
G000-028	C1900	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	2	0	0	0	08.1	C
G000-029	C1905	ABANDONED FARMHOUSE	08.06	1	0	0	0	16.5.1	C
G000-030	C1900	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	3	0	0	0	08.1	C
G000-031	C1912	FARM	08.06	7	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-032	C1912	FARM	08.05	6	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-033	C1910	FARM	08.05	5	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-034	C1920	FARM	08.06	5	0	3	1	08.1	C
G000-035	C1908	FARMHOUSE	08.06	1	0	1	1	16.5.1	C
G000-036	C1910	FARM	08.06	4	0	0	0	08.1	C
G000-037	C1905	ABANDONED FARM	08.06	3	0	1	0	08.1	C
G000-038	C1910	FARM	08.05	7	0	2	1	08.1	P

GO01: ELWOOD, GOSPER COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY	DOE
				BLDG.	SITE	STRU.	OBJ.	TYPE
GO01-001	1939	GOSPER COUNTY COURTHOUSE	04.03	1	0	0	0	04.1.7 NRHP
GO01-002	C1908	WILLIAM LEE HOUSE (R&C)	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-003	C1939	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-004	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1:5.2 C
GO01-005	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-006	C1915	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-007	C1905	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 P
GO01-008	C1917	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-009	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-010	C1928	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 P
GO01-011	C1919	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-012	C1912	HOME BANK	15.05.03	1	0	0	0	15.1.1 P
GO01-013	C1900	PROFESSIONAL BUILDING	15.04	1	0	0	0	15.3 C
GO01-014	C1912	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.06	1	0	0	0	12.1 C
GO01-015	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 P
GO01-016	C1900	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-017	C1927	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1:5.2 P
GO01-018	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-019	C1908	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-020	C1919	HOUSE	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-021	C1919	HOUSES	16.05	2	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-022	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO01-023	C1910	FARM	08.06	3	0	0	0	08.1 P

GO02: SMITHFIELD, GOSPER COUNTY INVENTORY

NEHBS NUMBER	DATE	COMMON/RESOURCE NAME	HISTORIC CONTEXT	CONTRIBUTING			PROPERTY	DOE
				BLDG.	SITE	STRU.	OBJ.	TYPE
GO02-001	C1900,1925	FILLING STATION & COMM. GARAGE	12.02.06, 13.03	4	0	0	0	13.3.3.3 C
GO02-002	C1908	COMMERCIAL BUILDING	12.02.06	1	0	0	0	12.1 C
GO02-003	C1910	FARMERS STATE BANK	15.05.03	1	0	0	0	15.1.1 C
GO02-004	C1910	HOUSE	16.05	1	0	1	1	16.5.1 C
GO02-005	C1908	ABANDONED HOUSE	16.05	1	0	0	0	16.5.1 C
GO02-006	C1914	FARM	08.06	1	0	1	0	16.5.1 C

GLOSSARY

This glossary lists architectural styles common in Nebraska during the mid-to-late nineteenth and early twentieth-centuries. Style names are followed by dates suggesting general periods of construction, and brief descriptions identifying characteristic features. These summaries were defined by the NESHPO and included in their publication "Historic Places: The National Register for Nebraska" (NEBRASKAland, Jan.-Feb., 1989).

Italianate 1870-1890

A popular style for houses, these square, rectangular, or L-shaped two-story buildings have low-pitched hip roofs, with wide eaves usually supported by heavy brackets, tall narrow windows, and front porches. In some cases, the roof may be topped with a cupola.

Queen Anne 1880-1900

A style which enjoyed widespread popularity in the state, these two-story houses have asymmetrical facades and steeply pitched rooflines of irregular shape. Characteristics include a variety of surface textures on walls, prominent towers, tall chimneys, and porches with gingerbread trim.

County Capitol 1880-1910

This was a popular form for courthouses in the state and was inspired by the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. Usually situated on a courthouse square, these square-shaped monumental buildings exhibit corner pavilions, a prominent central domed tower, and Neo-Classical or Romanesque styling.

Romanesque Revival 1880-1920

These buildings are of masonry construction and usually show some rough-faced stonework. The Roman or round-topped arch is a key feature. Facades are asymmetrical and most examples have towers, brick corbelling and horizontal stone banding.

Late Gothic Revival 1880-1930

A later version of the Gothic style, these buildings are generally larger and use heavy masonry construction. In churches, masonry is sometimes used throughout the structure. The pointed-arch window opening remains a key feature, however designs are more subdued than those of the earlier period.

Eclectic 1890-1910

An eclectic building displays a combination of architectural elements from various styles. It usually resulted when a house designed in one architectural style was remodeled.

GLOSSARY

Shingle 1890-1920

Characteristics include a two-story asymmetrical house with hip, gable, or gambrel roof; walls covered wholly or in part with wood shingles; little or no ornamentation; and extensive porches.

Neo-Classical Revival 1900-1920

Front facades are usually dominated by a full-height porch with the roof supported by classical columns. Symmetrically arranged buildings show monumental proportions, balanced windows, and a central entry.

Renaissance Revival 1900-1920

The style is characterized by formalism in plans, raised basements, low hipped roofs covered with clay tiles, symmetrical facades with wide overhanging eaves, arched entries and second story porches. Window treatments vary from story to story and are flat or round arched.

Georgian or Colonial Revival 1900-1930

A style characterized by a symmetrical facade enriched with classical detail, gable or hip roof, and eaves detailed as classical cornices. The standard window is rectangular with a double-hung sash. The Palladian window is often used as a focal point.

Spanish Colonial Revival 1900-1920

These buildings, which have a southwestern flavor, show masonry construction usually covered with plaster or stucco, red-tiled hipped roofs, and arcaded porches. Some facades are enriched with curvilinear and decorated roof lines.

Prairie 1900-1930

This movement, popularized by Frank Lloyd Wright, emphasized the integration of a building and its site. Elements of the style include a low-pitched roof line with wide overhanging eaves, two stories high with one-story porch, and an overall horizontal emphasis in the design.

Period 1920-1930

Influenced by the styles of medieval English and French country cottages, these houses are usually of two stories and display irregular massing, steeply pitched roofs with slate or clay tile covering, massive chimneys, half-timbering, casement windows, and attached garages.

Modernistic 1930-1940

Art Deco, the earlier Modernistic phase, was used primarily for public and commercial buildings and is characterized by angular composition, with towers and vertical projections and smooth wall surfaces with stylized and geometric motifs, including zigzags and chevrons. Art Moderne, the later version, shows smooth wall finishes without surface ornamentation, asymmetrical facades with a horizontal emphasis, flat roofs, rounded corners, and bands of windows or curved window glass creating a streamlined effect.

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